

I claim:

1. A method for creating a complex process model of defined entities in a graphical environment comprising the steps of:
  - defining a place comprising data types; and
  - defining a transition comprising actions;
  - wherein the connectivity of said place and said transition exists as an arc, and wherein said place, said transition, or said connectivity can be interchanged.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said place comprises a plurality of places to define a place region.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said transition comprises a plurality of transitions to define a transition region.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said arc constitutes an input arc.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said arc constitutes an output arc.
6. A method for simulating a complex process in an graphical environment comprising the steps of:
  - defining entities, wherein said entities are selected from the group of a place comprising data types and a transition comprising actions;
  - defining an arc to connect said places and transitions;

identifying the attributes of said defined entities of places and transitions;  
identifying the values of said defined entities of places and transitions;  
identifying the parameters of said arcs to connect said places and said transitions; and

manipulating said entities on the basis of said attributes, values, and parameters; and

wherein said places, said transitions, or said arcs can be interchanged.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said entities include place regions constituting a plurality of places, and transition regions constituting a plurality of transitions.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said arcs constitute input arcs.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein said arcs constitute output arcs.

10. A computer device including a processor, a memory coupled to the processor, and a program stored in the memory, wherein the computer is configured to execute the program to create a complex process model of defined entities in a graphical environment, and perform the steps of:

defining a place comprising data types; and

defining a transition comprising actions;

wherein the connectivity of said place and said transition exists as an arc,

and wherein said place, said transition, or said connectivity can be interchanged.

11. The computer device of claim 10, wherein said place comprises a plurality of places to define a place region.

12. The computer device of claim 10, wherein said transition comprises a plurality of transitions to define a transition region.

13. The computer device of claim 10, wherein said arc constitutes an input arc.

14. The computer device of claim 10, wherein said arc constitutes an output arc.

15. A computer device including a processor, a memory coupled to the processor, and a program stored in the memory, wherein the computer is configured to execute the program to simulate a complex process in a graphical environment, and perform the steps of:

defining entities, wherein said entities are selected from the group of a place comprising data types and a transition comprising actions;

defining an arc to connect said places and transitions;

identifying the attributes of said defined entities of places and transitions;

identifying the values of said defined entities of places and transitions;

identifying the parameters of said arcs to connect said places and said transitions; and

manipulating said entities on the basis of said attributes, values, and parameters; and

wherein said places, said transitions, or said arcs can be interchanged.

16. The computer device of claim 15, wherein said entities include place regions constituting a plurality of places, and transition regions constituting a plurality of transitions.

17. The computer device of claim 15, wherein said arcs constitute input arcs.

18. The computer device of claim 15, wherein said arcs constitute output arcs.

19. A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a program executable by a computer processor to execute the program to create a complex process model of defined entities in a graphical environment, to perform the steps of:

defining a place comprising data types; and

defining a transition comprising actions;

wherein the connectivity of said place and said transition exists as an arc, and wherein said place, said transition, or said connectivity can be interchanged.

20. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein said place comprises a plurality of places to define a place region.
21. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein said transition comprises a plurality of transitions to define a transition region.
22. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein said arc constitutes an input arc.
23. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein said arc constitutes an output arc.
24. A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a program executable by a computer processor to execute the program to simulate a complex process in a graphical environment, to perform the steps of:
- defining entities, wherein said entities are selected from the group of a place comprising data types and a transition comprising actions;
  - defining an arc to connect said places and transitions;
  - identifying the attributes of said defined entities of places and transitions;
  - identifying the values of said defined entities of places and transitions;
  - identifying the parameters of said arcs to connect said places and said transitions; and
  - manipulating said entities on the basis of said attributes, values, and parameters; and

wherein said places, said transitions, or said arcs can be interchanged.

25. The storage medium of claim 24, wherein said entities include place regions constituting a plurality of places, and transition regions constituting a plurality of transitions.

26. The storage medium of claim 24, wherein said arcs constitute input arcs.

27. The storage medium of claim 24, wherein said arcs constitute output arcs.